



USECA EXPRESS



Michigan's Largest and Most Active Amateur Radio Club

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 15, Number 6, June 1999

Rules and Regs For Field Day!

Ken, N8KC

ONCE MORE, it's that time of year—Field Day weekend (June 26-27th) will soon be upon us (only weeks away now!). **Are you prepared?** This is USECA's premier event of the year—**don't wait till the last minute to get ready!** Help make this an unprecedented 6th year in a row in the North American Top Ten list! If you haven't already, get on the other repeaters in town, join their nets and talk up USECA's Field Day operation. Be sure to give the location, directions as to how to get there, and instructions to bring food or cash if they plan to eat with us on Saturday. Our Field day is one of the best shots we have at recruiting new members, so grab a friend, bring your family, and come on out to Jim's farm for a weekend of fun, "USECA-style"!

During the week or so prior to Field Day, help will be needed in cutting the field at Jim's place and general preparations on-site (volunteers for mess tent repairs, call Stan, N8YWS—repairs are generally done the weekend prior to Field Day). Monitor the repeater for calls for volunteers. Friday, June 25th, is set up day—we'll need plenty of strong backs to help in setting up the kitchen and tents, hookin' up power and water, and getting our Field Day site ready for the following day's invasion. Friday night starting about 8 p.m.—Join in the fun with USECA's own all-Ham Rock Band, "QRM," as we rock into USECA's 1998 Field Day weekend. Bring your own "adult beverages" (no glass please—see below) and party till midnight or later! (Those of you who wish to play with "QRM," please check with Floyd (W8RO) to make arrangements).

Field Day Station Chairs: If your field day station is not fully prepared by now, you'd better get serious. Be sure to have plans for a replacement rig (you never know when one will lose it's "Magic Smoke"), a backup antenna, and a way to get all your gear to the Field Day site and set up. Reconfirm now, those generous offers of assistance and equipment made months ago. Check out your tower or other antenna support now to save frustration and delays on-site later.

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Field Day Frequencies

Joe, K8OEF

HAVING THE opportunity to view articles prior to printing in the *Express*, I took special note of the article from Ken, N8KC on Page 1.

Next came the Board meeting on April 6. And, at that meeting I openly discussed the seriousness of Ken's article. Along with Ken, I agree, this club was VERY close to move up in the final scoring of Field Day.

The jest is a few more points here, a few more points there—they'll all add up and who knows, we could be there with just a bit more effort.

I had a brainstorm (boy, is that unusual), and mentioned that the club should have a dedicated frequency that the field day operators (VHF+) will ALWAYS be monitoring.

Why? For many years in the past, while mobiling around, I've called and called in on Field Day, and, there was, "nothing heard."

How many hams are "cruising around" in that 24-hour period that will have mobiles? Two meters being the most popular, with 440 next with the dual band radios. There's two points right there from the same station. Don't forget 6 meters, 220 and 1.2 GHz.

Ok, you're not "cruising around." Get on your base and "call one in." As long as you're NOT using a repeater, they all count!

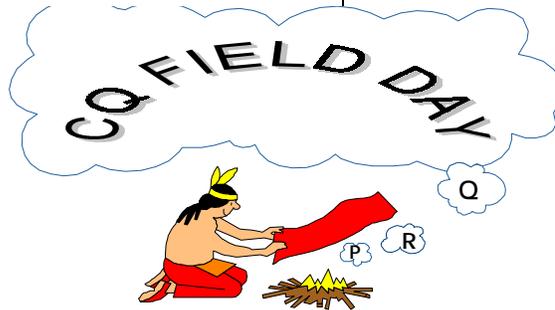
Don't you want us to "move up the ladder"? It won't take much. Grab a mic and help us out!

One drawback though—if you're a Field Day operator at our location, you do NOT qualify.

How many visitors do we have who do not operate with/for us? Several hundred? That's a whole bunch of points!

At this Board Meeting, I requested the "official" monitoring frequencies from our chairperson to be published here (and hopefully announced from time-to-time).

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Trash-For-Cash — Date Changed

This event will take place on Sunday, June 13 at the Gibraltar Trade Center. For additional information, contact Ed, KB8YLB (810) 776-5983.

Next Meeting — June 8

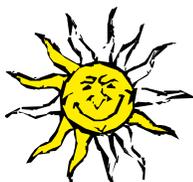
CLUB DIRECTORY

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Mailers/Sorters	Ann/KG8IF; Phil/W8IC; & Crew
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Program Director	Nancy/KB8QMS
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Trash-For-Cash	—Open—

CONTROL OPERATORS

Dennis/W8DFG	Nancy/KB8QMS	Gulliver/WA8VIJ
Doug/K8DK	Floyd/W8RO	Chuck/WA8Z
Earl/N8OEX	Bill/N8SA	

PROGRAMMERS

Doug/N8KND	Bill/N8SA	Chuck/WA8Z
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VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS

WW1AW	K8EN	WA8IZV	KA8NDY	W8RO	K8WI
AB8BT	AA8HF	WA8JPR	W8NG	N8SA	KB8WTH
AA8CY	KG8IE	N8KC	N8OEF	N8SN	
KM5D	W1IK	WX3L	N8OZ	W8VB	
WB8E	W8IR	WY8M	KG8QT	WY8W	

SILENT KEYS

Len Czapiewski/K8DHH	Joe Steel/KA8IZM	Harry Young/W8VRW
Art Sheff/WD8EGV	Rick Parady/KB8KLW	Velma Ragon/N8YVC
Joe Lucido/NU8F	John Moore/KA8KTV	John Tomlins/KG8YX
Charles Smith/N8FWF	John Palmer/WD8LBH	
Clarence Ringo/W8HQO	John Pizzuti/WB8NHT	

f= Founder c= Charter h= Hon. Charter

N8AWV h	N8HCT f c	WB8OSF h
KA8BDG c	KA8IZM f c SK	K8QLM f c
N8BK h	KA8KTV f c SK	WB8QNI c
N8FDN c	G. Manquardt h	KA8VYV h
N8FNO f c	WD8MFN f c	WA8VZZ c
J. Haubner c	WD8NHT f c	

The Editor is:

Still Going

Joe, K8OEF



At the May General Meeting, I took a "hands-up" consensus of the idea of an auction prior to the general meeting; say from 7:00 to 7:30. The response was very positive and should be further investigated to bring this to reality. You could bring your "stuff" to be auctioned-off and contribute a "commission" to our club's kitty. [Win-Win!]

Glad to see our Cork Board expanding. Let me know what you want to buy/sell/trade, and it will be done. Remember, you have to be a member to have a listing.

Ken, N8KC made a suggestion for the possibility of someone forming a USECA chapter of 10-10 inter-national. As he read the rules, it would cost nothing and only requires someone to send in a monthly or yearly net report on 10m activity. We already have a 10m net running and it would probably attract at least a few more interested folks to that net as well give USECA a bit of nationwide exposure in the 10-10 news. Seems like it would be something one of our 10m advocates would jump on! [N8KC (10-10 #59841)] Anyone interested?

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USECA's Annual Picnic

Ken, N8KC

Circle August 1st on your calendar — that's the date for USECA's annual summer picnic. Our annual picnics had their beginnings in Port Huron, originally held there to enhance the attendance of the EMARC swap and because the Lightship Huron offered an on-board, operating, radio station open to all licensed hams. It was always fun to be the object of a pileup when you made mention of the fact that you were *aboard* a lightship. Many USECAns would arrive early to attend the swap and then spend the afternoon nibbling on picnic food atop the hill overlooking the Blue Water Bridge and the entry to Lake Huron from the Saint Clair River. The drawbacks to this location and coincidence with the swap were the *long* drive from the Metro area, and the individuals who began to show up, year after year, immediately after the swap for a free meal, arriving empty-handed. To top it off, the curators of the lightship, fed up with a few inconsiderate amateurs (not USECAns), decided to banish the ham station from the lightship except during "special event" operations such as the Port Huron to Mackinaw Race—Boat Week.

Last year, for the first time, we moved to New Baltimore's waterfront park, under the old red water tower. Attendance (by *members*) improved by over 300%! The drive is now a short one for most members and many stop in, if only for a short time. Last year several members even came by boat, although lower water levels this year might make that a risky affair. We will, once again, be in the pavilion near the water. Last year there were at least six QRP stations set up near the seawall. Although there are a few trees, if you plan on setting up a station, try to plan on a self-supporting antenna.

As usual, the club will be supplying soda, hotdogs, hamburgers, and fixin's. It is *your* job to bring a dish to pass—**PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE & DO NOT ARRIVE EMPTY-HANDED!** (or *worse yet*, with only a bag of chips under your arm). **Do** bring a friend—our picnic has always been a good place to recruit a new member. **Be prepared for a great time, a great view, good food, and good friends—Isn't that what USECA's all about?**

Talk to Nancy (KB8QMS) or Denise (KC8IPF) for further information or coordination of foodstuffs.

1999 Field Day Pins

The ARRL is offering lapel pins in commemoration of Field Day 1999. The cost is \$5.00. Contact Laura (810) 749-4561 now! USECA is making a group order and will accept orders up to our June 8, 1999 meeting. Don't be left out!

New Net Manager

Dave, KC8IAQ

As of June 1999 Brian KC8DIR will be assuming the responsibilities of Net Manager.

I will be handing the job to Brian so I can concentrate on other areas of responsibility, and personal interests. It has been 2 years since I took the job, and the USECA nets are VERY healthy. I have really enjoyed the job, and tried to make a real difference. It has been fun, and I am sure Brian will have as much fun as I did with the job.

I will be available to Brian to assist him if needed. Please direct any questions or concerns regarding the nets to Brian. NCO's please cooperate with Brian as you have with me. Brian is a great choice for the job, and he will work with you as I have in the past.

I am sure our nets will continue to grow and flourish, and I will still be checking into the nets or running them occasionally. Congratulations to Brian!

Roots Into Radio¹

Jerry McGinn, K8CFY, Club Historian

AS AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS, we tend to take for granted what we have today. Our Morse code, ssb phone, packet, rtty; yes all of our wonderful c.w., voice and data modes that make our hobby so enjoyable. Have you ever pondered upon the beginnings of radio communications? How did it all start? Where did it all come from?

We know of course, that Morse code proceeded voice as a "radio" communications medium, and the spark-gap before that. But how did man's quest for long distance communication evolve?

Our radio pioneers really had very fertile minds to accompany their wild dreams and imaginations which led to much experimentation and inventiveness. One of the earliest pioneers was NIKOLA TESLA—whose experiments laid groundwork in the field of wireless communication; and his advice on the superiority of continuous waves over damped waves, ultimately proved true. REGINALD A. FESSENDEN, a Canadian-led the way to our present approach to radio communication. Since there was no continuous wave generators capable of producing radio frequency, he improved on the damped wave equipment with his "synchronous rotary spark-gap." But something better was needed and Fessenden was convinced that Tesla's idea of a high frequency alternator was the answer. In the meantime, spark-gap reigned supreme and Fessenden was able to eventually accomplish international communication via his transatlantic system—between Brant Rock, Massachusetts and Machrihanish on the Scottish coast. On Jan 10, 1906 the first two-way transatlantic wireless telegraph messages were exchanged. Fessenden's mind however lingered on the development of the radio-frequency alternator—convinced that this would make radio telephony—the development of speech and other sound transmissions by hertzian waves—practical.

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1999 Field Day Rules

1. Eligibility: Field Day is opened competitively to all amateurs in the ARRL/RAC Field Organization (plus Yukon and Northwest Territories). Foreign stations may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to compete.

2. Object: To work as many stations as possible on any or all amateur bands (excluding the 30, 17, and 12-Meter bands) and, in doing so, to learn to operate in abnormal situations under less-than-optimum conditions. A premium is placed on skills and equipment developed to meet the challenge of emergency preparedness and to acquaint the public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio.

3. Date and Field Day Period: Always held on the fourth full weekend of June. Begins 1800 UTC Saturday, ends 2100 UTC Sunday (June 26-27, 1999).

3.1. Class A and Class B (see below) stations who do not begin setting up until 1800 UTC Saturday may operate the entire Field Day period of 27 hours.

3.2. Others must begin their setup no earlier than 1800 UTC Friday, and may operate no more than 24 consecutive hours, i.e., once on-the-air Field Day operation has started, it must end 24 hours from that point.

4. Entry Categories: Field Day entries are classified according to the maximum number of simultaneous transmitted signals, followed by the designation of the nature of the individual or group participation. Below 30 MHz, once a transmitter is used for a contact on a band, it must remain on that band for at least 15 minutes. During this 15-minute period, the transmitter is considered to be transmitting a signal, whether it is or not, for the purpose of determining transmitter class. Switching devices are prohibited.

4.1. (Class A) Club/non-club portable: Club groups (or non-club groups with three or more licensed amateurs) set up specifically for Field Day. Such stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations, and must use no facilities installed for permanent station use, nor any structures installed permanently for Field Day use. Stations must be operated under one call sign (except when the Novice/Technician Plus position is used) and under the control of a single licensee or trustee for each entry. All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose diameter does not exceed 300 meters (1000 feet). All contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) operating independent of commercial mains. Entrants who, for one reason or another, operate a transmitter or receiver from commercial mains for one or more contacts will be listed separately at the end of their class.

4.1.1. Any Class A group whose entry classification is two or more transmitters (non-Novice) may also use one Novice/Technician Plus operating position (Novice bands only) without changing its basic entry classification. For Field Day purposes only, any Canadian Amateur HF licensee, who has been licensed for less than six months prior to Field Day, shall be considered a "Novice" to provide a means for Canadian Field Day Class A stations with two or more transmitters to participate with a "Novice/Technician Plus" operating position. This "Canadian Novice station" is restricted to the US Novice sub-bands and power/mode restrictions. The Novice/Technician Plus station (including antennas) should be set up and operated by Novice and Technician Plus licensees and should use the call sign of one of the Novice/Technician Plus operators.

4.1.2. Any Class A group whose entry classification is two or more transmitters may also use one station that operates exclusively on any band or combination of bands above 50 MHz (VHF/UHF bands) without changing its basic entry classification. This station may be operated for the entire Field Day period, and all contacts count for QSO points credit.

4.2. (Class A-Battery) Club/nonclub portable: Club groups (or non club groups with three or more licensed amateurs) set up specifically for Field Day and all contacts are made using an output

power of 5 W or less and the power source is other than commercial mains or motor-driven generator (eg, batteries, solar cells, water-driven generators). Other provisions are the same as for class A.

4.3. (Class B) One- or two-person portable: Non-club stations set up and operated by not more than two licensed amateurs will be placed in Class B. Other provisions are the same as for Class A. One- and two-person Class B entries will be listed separately in the results.

4.4. (Class B-Battery) One- or two-person portable: Non-club stations set up and operated by not more than two licensed amateurs and all contacts are made using an output power of 5 W or less and the power source is other than commercial mains or motor-driven generator (e.g., batteries, solar cells, water-driven generators). Other provisions are the same as for Class A. One- and two-person Class B-Battery entries will be listed separately in the results.

4.5. (Class C) Mobile: Stations in vehicles capable of operating while in motion and normally operated in this manner, including antenna. This includes marine and aeronautical mobiles.

4.6. (Class D) Home stations: Stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D stations may count contacts only with Class A, B, C and E Field Day groups for points.

4.7. (Class E) Home stations-emergency power: Same as Class D, but using emergency power for transmitters and receivers. Work stations in Class A, B, C, D and E.

5. Exchange: Stations in any ARRL/RAC Section will exchange their Field Day operating class and ARRL/RAC Section. For example, if your club group was planning to operate in the three-transmitter, Class A category from Missouri, you would send "3 A Missouri." Foreign stations send RS(T) and QTH.

6. Miscellaneous Rules:

6.1. Operators participating in Field Day may not, from any other station, contact for point credit the Field Day portable station of a group with which they participated.

6.2. A station used to contact one or more Field Day stations may not subsequently be used under any other call during the Field Day period. Family stations are exempted.

6.3. Each phone, each CW, and each digital (non-CW) segment is considered as a separate band. (A station may be worked once on each band.)

6.4. All voice communication contacts are equivalent.

6.5. Crossband contacts are not allowed.

6.6. The use of more than one transmitter at the same time on a single band is prohibited, except that a Novice/Technician Plus position may operate on any Novice band segment at any time. No repeater contacts.

6.7. Batteries may be charged while in use. Except for class D, batteries must be charged from a power source independent of the commercial mains.

7. Scoring: Scores are based on the total number of valid contact points times the multiplier corresponding to the highest power used at any time during the Field Day period, plus bonus points.

7.1. Phone contacts count one point each.

7.2. CW and digital contacts count two points each.

7.3. Power multipliers:

7.3.1. If all contacts are made using an output power of 5 W or less and if a power source other than commercial mains or

motor-driven generator is used (eg, batteries, solar cells, water-driven generators), multiply by 5.

7.3.2. If any or all contacts are made using an output power of 150 W or less, multiply by 2.

7.3.3. If any or all contacts are made using an output power more than 150 watts, multiply by 1.

7.4. Bonus points: The following bonus points will be added to the score (after the multiplier is applied) to determine the final score. Only Class A and B stations are eligible for bonuses. Just check the box on the Field Day summary sheet to indicate that you qualify for the bonus, and attach the necessary proof.

7.4.1. 100% emergency power: 100 points per transmitter for 100% emergency power. All equipment and facilities at the Field Day site must be operated from a source independent of the commercial mains. Example: A club operating 3A, using 100% emergency power may claim 300 bonus points.

7.4.2. Public relations:

7.4.2.1. 100 points for media publicity. Publicity must be obtained or a bona fide attempt to obtain publicity must be made. Evidence must be submitted in the form of a newspaper clipping, a memo from a BC/TV station stating that publicity was given or a copy of the material that was sent to the news media for publicity purposes.

7.4.2.2. 100 points for physically locating in a public place (eg shopping center, parks, etc) with significant access by the public. The intent here is for Amateur Radio to be on display to the public.

7.4.2.3. An additional 100 points can be earned by such display stations in public places actively conducting an information booth for the visiting public, and dispensing information handouts, maintaining visitor's log, etc, as an information/recruiting tool for Amateur Radio. Evidence submitted for both (B) and (C) may consist of copies of handouts, visitor's log, brief report on activities conducted, photos, etc.

7.4.3. Message origination: 100 points for origination of a message by the club president or other Field Day leader, addressed to the SM or SEC, stating the club name (or non-club group), number of operators, field location and number of ARES members participating. The message must be transmitted during the Field Day period, and a fully serviced copy of it must be in standard ARRL message form or no credit will be given.

7.4.4. Message relay: 10 points for each message received and relayed during the Field Day period, up to a maximum of 100 points. Copies of each message, properly serviced, must be included with the Field Day report.

7.4.5. Satellite QSO: 100 points can be earned by completing at least one QSO via satellite during the Field Day period. The repeater provision of Rule 6.6 is waived for satellite QSOs. A satellite station (one) does not count as an additional transmitter. On the summary sheet, show satellite QSOs as a separate "band".

7.4.6. Natural Power: Field Day groups making a minimum of five QSOs without using power from commercial mains or petroleum derivatives can earn 100 points. Intuitively, this means an "alternate" energy source of power such as solar, wind, methane or grain alcohol. This includes batteries charged by natural means (not dry cells).

The natural-power station counts as an additional transmitter. If you do not wish to change your entry class, take one of your other transmitters off the air while making the natural-power QSOs. A separate list of natural-power QSOs should be enclosed with your entry.

7.4.7. W1AW message: A bonus of 100 points will be earned by copying a special ARRL Field Day bulletin sent over W1AW on its

regularly announced frequencies just before and during Field Day. This message can be received directly from W1AW or by any relay method. An accurate copy of the received message should be included in your Field Day report.

8. Reporting: Entries must be postmarked by July 27, 1999. No late entries can be accepted. A complete entry consists of an official ARRL summary sheet (or reasonable facsimile) and a list of stations worked on each band/mode during Field Day, plus bonus proof. The list of stations worked on each band or mode may take the form of official ARRL dupe sheets (Adobe Acrobat file, 83,828 bytes) or an alphanumeric listing of call signs worked per band and mode. This list may be computer-generated. Incomplete or illegible entries will be classified as checklogs. A copy of Field Day logs should be kept by your Field Day group, but should not be sent in unless specifically requested later by ARRL.

9. Miscellaneous:

9.1 The list of bulletin times for W1AW is included in this announcement. While W1AW does not have regular bulletins on weekends, the Field Day message will broadcast according to the accompanying schedule.

9.2 See General Rules for All ARRL Contests and General Rules for ARRL Contests on bands below 30 MHz (HF) at the Contest Web Page or the November 1998 issue of QST.

9.3 The complete Field Day packet, including forms, may be obtained by:

9.3.1 Sending a 9 by 12 SASE with four units of postage to: Field Day Packet, ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111;

9.3.2 Downloading from the Contest Home Page.

9.4 Electronic entries should be submitted to: FieldDay@arrl.org

9.5 Paper entries should be sent to Field Day Entries, ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111

Page last modified: 4:01 PM, 23 Apr 1999 ET

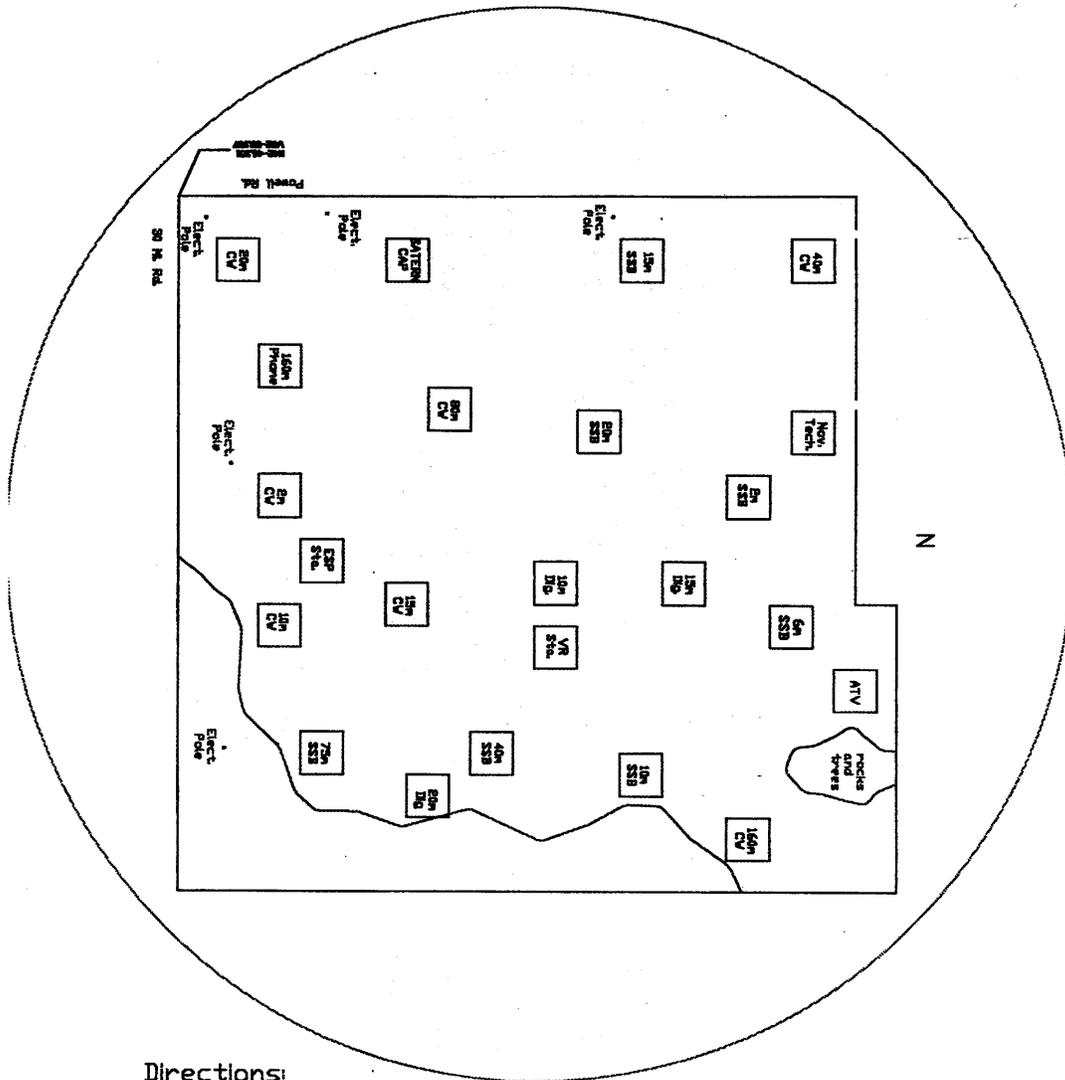
Page author: n1nd@arrl.org

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**PUT MORE ASSOCIATION
IN YOUR ASSOCIATION!**

USECA's Cork Board

Check out the newly expanded Cork Board on
Page 14. It's for members only—and FREE!



Directions:

Take VanDyke Expressway (M-53) North to 30 Mi. Rd. (yellow flashing light), Turn Right (go East young man) go to Powell Road (look up see antennas). Turn left on Powell (Go North young man) Turn in first driveway on the Right.

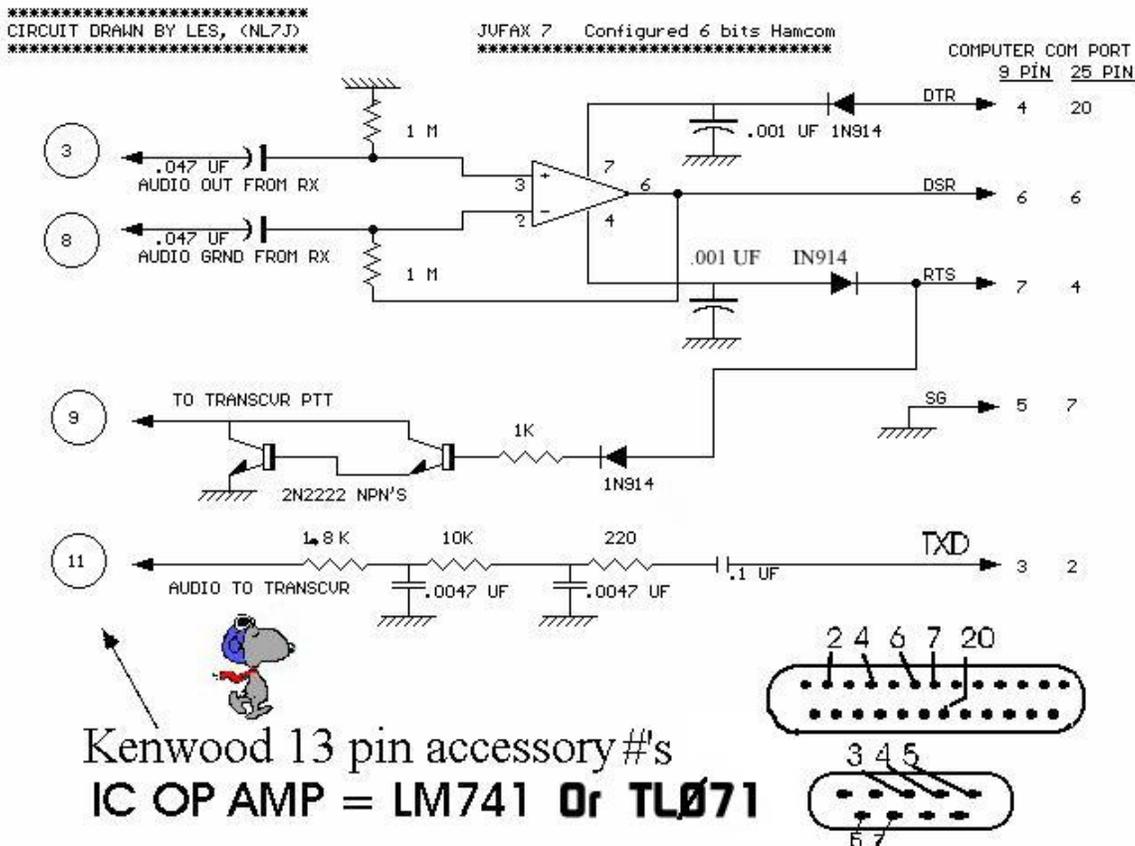
Notes:

Grid squares are 20' X 20'
 Land provided by Jim Voight (N8MCD)
 Map drawn by Dave Stormer (KC8IZG)
 Rocks and trees provided by Mother Nature
 Please treat her with respect.

SSTV On The Cheap

Hey! Wanna' try somethin' different? Somethin' that don't cost much? Try Slow Scan TV, the cost to get started is *far* less than you might think. After reading Dave's (KC8IAQ) article on SSTV and seeing some of his captured pictures, I decided to try out the mode for myself. At first, I was apprehensive of the cost of a TNC—I didn't want to spend a whole pile of cash to "explore" a new mode I may not stay with. I did some searching on the internet and found several "free" SSTV programs that use a simple and inexpensive to build circuit to interface your computer's serial port (386 or better, VGA a must) with your radio. You can buy the circuit, built into a 25 pin serial connector, from Hamcomm on the internet at Radio Amateur Associates for approximately \$30 (I chose this route, simply to save my time). The circuit, should you decide to build it on your own is below:

Hamcomm includes in their package the interface and their own software for SSTV as well as a program for the reception



of CW, Baudot, RTTY, Amtor, and Pactor (*both programs run ONLY in DOS mode, they will lock up your computer if you attempt to run them from Windows 95/98*). If you choose to buy the circuit from Hamcomm, be aware that their circuit is designed for reception only; you will have to build your own transmitting interface. I found Hamcomm's software difficult to understand and never did get the settings working correctly (I'll admit I've never been one who likes reading long software manuals and have always felt a program should be as simple as possible). Their programs may indeed work well, but in frustration I looked elsewhere—and discovered two gems!

Again, on the internet, I came across a program that used the same cheap interface, called EZSSTV. I found this program extremely easy to use and within minutes of installation was receiving SSTV pictures on my laptop. EZSSTV does not include software for other modes like Hamcomm. Like Hamcomm's software, EZSSTV runs only in DOS mode. (EZSSTV can be downloaded at <http://ultra.net/~sstv/eztv.html>)

After searching further, I also came across MSCAN, a seeming rarity amongst SSTV programs; it runs from Windows 95/98 and looks as easy to use as EZSSTV, although I did not test it. It appears to use the same inexpensive hardware as the aforementioned two programs. (MSCAN can be found at <http://www.phone4you.com/index.html>)

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Squirrely

Hello Everyone. Many of you have commented on the improved signals emanating from W1NN lately. The fact is, I have found a way to get my antennas a lot further up in the trees than before. I am now ready to share my secret with my fellow contesters.

Like most lots in New England, mine is covered with large oaks and maples, some as tall as 100 feet. I have always longed to see my antennas in the very tops of these trees, but conventional methods (climbing, rock throwing, wrist rockets, bow & arrow, etc.) just wouldn't hack it. The basic problem was that the trees are too dense and it's just impossible to get a wire (especially a long wire for 160) to rest straight and true in the very tops of the trees. This problem has vexed me since moving here in 1983.

But two years ago a potential solution came into view. The solution to my problem hit me in a very improbable way. In the summer of 1997, I visited a boat show in the neighboring town of Norwalk, CT. As a crowd-pleasing attraction, the show was presenting the performance of a water-skiing squirrel. What a wacky thing, I thought. Who would be interested in such nonsense? But when I saw this talented little rodent actually water-skiing in front of large crowds, I was really impressed. I hadn't realized that squirrels were so smart! I should explain that my lot is simply covered with grey squirrels. I had always admired these busy little critters and envied their ability to climb to the very tops of the trees in search of food, but I must admit that I had never given them much thought.

But after I saw that water-skiing squirrel (I'm sorry but I can't remember his name), I just couldn't look at my squirrels the same any more. If these creatures were smart enough to water ski, could they be trained to do other things? Like carry a string up to the top of a tree? You can probably see where I'm going with this. The next six months were filled with excitement and adventure as I researched squirrels and started seeing what I could do with the residents of my own back yard. It's amazing what a squirrel will do to get a nut or a seed. Any of you who have every had bird feeders surely know this. Those guys will stand on their heads, flip over, dangle from a thin branch, and go through all sorts of contortions to get

food. They're actually a lot smarter than your average Toys-R-Us cashier.

I began to see whether I could make friends with my squirrels. I laid in a selection of expensive nuts and seeds and began coaxing them to the window. I found that it was quite easy to befriend these fellows and before long they were sitting in my right hand and eating seeds and nuts that I would offer from my left.

Two squirrels in particular seemed to be smart and friendly. I named these above-average squirrels Scratchy and Shirley and I gave them little collars so I could identify them. (After a while I could dispense with the collars because I found I could easily recognize them. Not all squirrels look the same, you know.) They really seemed to enjoy it when I began to show them around the shack. I had trouble pulling Shirley away from the W1AW code practice sessions; she really seems to have a thing for high-speed Morse.

There followed a long, sometimes frustrating period of months of training Scratchy and Shirley to carry a thin string up to the top of the trees. Some days they were very cooperative and other days they just didn't seem to care. I quickly learned not to over feed them. They seemed to become especially hard to deal with when they were given too many walnuts. On the other hand, they would do just about anything for a cashew. This turned out to be my best motivator.

My nut bill soared. My plan was to have them carry a thin string up, over the trees, and back to ground. I would use this to pull a thicker rope and then use the rope to pull my wire up into the tree. (I decided early on that the squirrels did not have the strength to pull a #14 wire through the trees, smart as they might be.)

Later I substituted a fishing line for the string, because it offers much less friction. Actually, it was quite easy to get my little friends to take the fish line up the tree; the problem was in getting them to bring it back to the ground on the other side. But patience conquers all and in time the guys began to understand exactly what I wanted them to do.

While my ultimate goal was to have them pull a fish line long enough for a half-wave on 160, I began with 15 Meters and gradually built them up to the longer lengths. They graduated up to 40 Meters without much trouble but the

step to 80 was a bear. After failing with 80 Meters for several weeks, I gave in and tried 75 Meters (not that I would ever use the band), and they were able to manage this. After this, it was easy to step them up to 80. Surprisingly, the jump to 160 was surprisingly easy.

Today, all I have to do was give Scratchy (he is by far the better of the two) a fish line which he will grasp in his teeth. Then I point to the tree I want and he will scamper all the way up to the top in a jiffy! I then point in the direction I wanted him to carry the line, and he merrily skips across the tops of the trees in the right direction. I merely stand on the ground holding a fishing reel to let the line out as he goes. I then walk to where I want him to come down to the ground and call him, and he brings the fish line right down to my waiting hand! Good boy, Scratchy!

My outstanding performance in this year's CQWW 160 CW contest (keep your eye on the results) is almost entirely due to the extra 40 feet of antenna height I managed to gain this year. Scratchy and Shirley eventually moved into our guest bedroom and they have become part of the family.

Last summer we were blessed with a litter of the cutest little baby squirrels you ever saw. The new generation is completely used to living with us (after some hesitation my XYL really warmed up to the project; our kids are all practically grown up and the squirrels are very good company) and I have big things in mind for them when they get a little older.

Scratchy has shown some interest in computers and I'm hopeful that Scratchy Junior might just become good enough to help me with multi-single operations. I am also considering the viability of renting these fellows out to help local hams with their antennas (but please do not take this as a commercial advertisement).

Those of you interested in duplicating this feat, begin by taking a look at a great home page on squirrels at: <http://www.geocities.com/yosemite/rapids/4362/grysqrls.html>

You can find pictures of my bunch and other information on my experience at: <http://www.asquirrellystory.com/>

Of course, I'll be happy to answer your (serious) questions.

73, Hal W1NN

—Submitted by Hank, K8DD

Members E-Mail Directory

N8ARO, Al: allum@mich.com
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 K8CFY, Jerry: irish12@juno.com
 KM5D, Eric: km5d@amsat.org
 KC8DBE, Charles: kc8dbe@ees.eesc.com
 KC8DBG, Bill: rwldkelley@aol.com
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 W8DFG, Dennis: wazoo@prodigy.net
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 KC8EDK, Brian: bgeci@oakland.edu
 KB8EOD, Mike: mike.galat@unisis.com
 N8ERV, Tom: n8erv@tir.com
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 K8FT, Jim: jkuhns@terayon.com
 KC8FTX, Leo: kc8ftx@juno.com
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 KC8KIO, Cindy: richcomp@sprynet.com
 KC8KJL, Brian: belliot1@aol.com
 KC8KJM, Bob: wwashburn@softhome.net

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S
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A



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 KB8YYA, Dreux: kb8yya@aol.com
 KB8YYB, Debby: cuer@juno.com
 N8XNM, Ray: rmacha@mich.com

★New/change from previous.

If you are a club member and would like your address published (or changed) in the *Express*, send it via e-mail to K8OEF.



"YOU'VE GOT MAIL!"

1999 Net Point System

- ✓1) HF CW NCO = 4 points, HF SSB/VHF NCO = 3 points, HF CW/SSB check-in = 2 points, VHF check-in = 1 point. HF < 30 MHz, VHF > 30 MHz. (NOTE: Check-ins should do so *personally*, proxy check-ins are legitimate *only* for members on club business. "In & Out" check-ins, though allowed, are discouraged.)
- ✓2) Awards are earned for 50 points and multiples thereof; plaques for the highest annual HF and VHF scores. Awards are meant to encourage **participation** and can be earned by any licensed amateur.
- ✓3) Net logs must be readable and include the CALLS and NAMES of check-ins, as well as NCO, DATE, and MODE.
- ✓4) NCO's: Forward net logs to the Awards Manager within 30 days; logs received later will not earn the bonus points normally awarded a NCO. MAIL logs to: 17516 Brill Dr., Clinton Twp., MI 48035 c/o KC8JSH; E-Mail: delwro@att.net.
- ✓5) If *you* notice any errors in the database, wrong or changed call signs, misspelled names, etc., let Delphine know ASAP.

Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now . . . We're On The Move!

USECA Board Meeting Minutes—May 4, 1999

In attendance:

- W8DFG, Dennis President
- KB8QMS, Nancy Vice-President
- KB8YYB, Debbi Recording Secretary/Swap Chairperson
- W8IR, Mark Membership Secretary
- N8OKW, Jim Treasurer
- KC8IAQ, Dave Board Member
- KG8IF, Ann Board Member
- N8TMJ, Marianne Board Member
- W8RO, Floyd Past President
- *K8CFY, Jerry Historian
- K8OEF, Joe Express Editor
- W8VB, Dave ARRL Liaison
- WB8E, Walt Field Day Chairman
- K8ZEC, John Repeater Technician
- KC8JSH, Delphine; W8PEG, Peg; Laura Klovski *Absent



The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:31 P.M.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

The Treasurer's report was approved.

Membership: Current membership exceeds 189.

Repeater: John, K8ZEC, informed the Board as to the status of the repeater system.

Express: Joe, K8OEF, our editor extraordinaire reminded everyone that articles will be due at the meeting on May 11, 1999.

ARRL: Dave, W8VB, will do an ARRL related presentation at the May 11, 1999 meeting.

Old Business:

Trash for Cash: Ed, KB8YLB, is our new Trash for Cash chairman. It will be held at Gibraltar Trade Center.

Field Day: There will be a Field Day meeting at the Salvation Army on Saturday, May 8, 1999 at 7:30 P.M.

Nancy, KB8QMS, reported that the annual USECA Picnic will be held at the New Baltimore Park on Sunday, August 1, 1999.

New Business:

Laura Klovski volunteered to take orders for the new ARRL Field Day Pins.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Debbi Cokewell, KB8YYB, Recording Secretary



USECA General Meeting Minutes—May 11, 1999

In attendance:

- W8DFG, Dennis President
- *KB8QMS, Nancy Vice-President
- KB8YYB, Debbi Recording Secretary/Swap Chairperson
- W8IR, Mark Membership Secretary
- N8OKW, Jim Treasurer
- KC8IAQ, Dave Board Member
- KG8IF, Ann Board Member
- N8TMJ, Marianne Board Member
- W8RO, Floyd Past President
- K8CFY, Jerry Historian

- K8OEF, Joe Express Editor
- *W8VB, Dave ARRL Liaison
- WB8E, Walt Field Day Chairman
- K8ZEC, John Repeater Technician
- *Absent

The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:31 P.M. New upgrades were recognized.

A motion was made by Bill, WA8JPR, seconded by George, K8GEO, and passed to accept the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the Express.

A motion was made by Jim, W1IK, seconded by Richard, KB8WTH, and passed to accept the Treasurer's report.

Membership: Current membership exceeds 190.

Express: Articles for the Express are due tonight. Want ads will now be accepted for any merchandise you wish to sell. These ads are for members only.

Repeater: John, K8ZEC, informed the membership that we have been given the go ahead to place the back up repeater at Mt. Clemens General Hospital.

Dennis, W8DFG, began a short dialog on repeater etiquette. Please don't quick key, and if someone throws their call sign into your conversation, always turn the repeater over to them immediately.

Marianne, N8TMJ, reported that Dave's, W8VB, surgery was successful.

Dave, KC8IAQ, announced that Brian, KC8DIR, will be our new Net Manager starting in June, and of course he will need NCO's.

Hosts: Many thanks to this month's hosts, Scott, KC8LXM, and George, K8GEO.

Old Business:

Trash for Cash: Will be held at Gibraltar Trade Center on June 13, 1999. All sellable merchandise should go to Ed, KB8YLB, our new Trash for Cash chairman.

Dreux, KB8YYA, thanked everyone for their participation at the 1999 Walk America.

Delphine, KC8JSH, reminded everyone that the Field Day Kitchen needs garbage cans and coolers.

Ann, KG8IF, announced Pre-Field Day, May 22, 1999 at Stony Creek Park, 9:00 A.M. until dusk. Bring a dish to pass, beverages, radios, and chairs but no water guns.

New Business:

The June, 1999 al fresco meeting will precede the annual Foxhunt.

Joe, K8OEF, announced tentative plans to hold an occasional auction of radio equipment at 7:00 P.M. before the USECA meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbi Cokewell, KB8YYB, Recording Secretary



USECA 1999 VHF Net Points As Received By May 5, 1999

Call	Name	pts
W1ETE	BRENT	24
W1IK	JIM	41
KA2IBE	JOHN	29
V3DES	DES	1
GMOLEYVE3	BOB	1
WX3L	MIKE	1
VE3LFZ	MARIE	16
WX3M	DON	1
VA3MLF	MIKE	1
VE3PTC	WALT	1
VE3TDC	SONIA	1
VA3XDN	DON	1
KC4ITU	DWIGHT	2
KF4JDP	SCOTT	1
WA4RDK	RON	1
KC4ZTS	STEVE	1
KM5D	ERIC	1
KB8DSC	JOHN	1
KB8AKS	JERRY	1
KC8ARS	HENRY	2
N8ASD	LARRY	1
KC8BFP	MARK	13
W8BHF	BOB	1
KC8BML	BILL	1
KC8BNY	JERRY	2
KB8BSG	CARL	1
AB8BT	ANDY	38
KC8BXD	HENRY	6
KC8BZS	KEN	2
KA8CBZ	BILL	2
K8CFY	JERRY	7
KC8CPT	DON	19
KC8DBG	BILL	1
W8DFG	DENNIS	19
KC8DIR	BRIAN	48
N8DP	MICHAEL	1
KC8DPO	RON	1
N8DVO	FRED	1
K8DXX	BILL	2
K8DZT	FRANK	4
KC8DZT	TOM	1
W8BE	WALT	28
KC8ECB	KEN	1
KC8EDK	BRIAN	1
N8ERV	TOM	2
K8EZ	RANDY	1
KC8FMT	DICK	1
KC8FRW	JOHN	19
W88FUI	PHIL	5
KC8FXF	MIKE	1
KC8FYQ	GERALD	2
K8GEO	GEORGE	1
KB8GFE	KEN	2
KC8GFN	DAVE	2
KC8GMT	LORA	27
KC8GNH	KEVIN	1
WA8GQL	DAN	1
KC8GRZ	JERRY	1
KI8HW	STEVE	2

Call	Name	pts
KC8HYU	JON	61
KC8IAP	MARY	11
KC8IAQ	DAVE	71
W8IC	PHIL	1
W8IDO	DENNIS	1
KG8IF	ANN	14
KC8IHL	COLIN	1
KC8IHO	COLIN	7
KC8IMK	DALE	1
W8IMP	JOHN	2
W8IR	MARK	10
WB8ITB	FRED	1
KC8IWN	MAURICE	1
W8IZE	DON	1
KC8IZG	DAVE	9
KC8IZW	DALLAS	2
KC8JBK	CHARLIE	2
N8JGU	MIKE	1
KC8JMP	JOHN	44
KC8JNL	FENTON	1
WA8JPR	BILL	15
KC8JSF	JEFF	8
KC8JSH	DELPHINE	8
N8KC	KEN	9
W8KC	PAUL	10
KC8KIO	CINDY	3
KC8KIR	MATTHEW	21
KC8KJL	BRIAN	4
KC8KJM	BOB	1
KC8KJN	STEVE	8
KC8KNG	FLORIN	1
KC8KNH	LORA	4
KB8KSG	ANGLO	1
KC8KWW	MIKE	1
W8KZ	BUTCH	1
KB8LAG	CLAYTON	1
KC8LAH	STU	28
KC8LDM	MICHAEL	3
KC8LDN	RAY	4
W8LEE	LEE	1
KB8LFE	JIM	5
KC8LGB	LYLE	1
KA8LGI	DARRELL	9
KC8LIR	SCOTT	1
KC8LIU	CRAIG	11
KC8LOD	MIKE	2
KC8LOQ	RICK	1
KC8LQB	STEVE	1
KC8LRC	LEE	2
KC8LUM	MIKE	5
KC8LVL	KEVIN	2
KC8LXN	LORIE	2
KK8M	TOM	4
WY8M	ARPAD	7
N8MCD	JIM	6
KI8HJ	LARRY	19
KC8HMG	JANICE	79
KC8HMM	SAM	23
KB8HSR	TIM	3

Call	Name	pts
W8PEG	PEGGY	5
N8PFR	LEONARD	1
K8PIK	MARILYN	17
KA8PIQ	JEFF	1
WA8PPW	SAM	3
K8QLM	RICHARD	84
KB8QMS	NANCY	19
KB8RBV	MANNY	6
KB8RCB	TONY	2
N8RE	JOE	1
K8RFP	ROD	1
N8RGD	CRAIG	1
WD8RNO	LEN	1
W8RO	FLOYD	13
N8RRU	GARY	3
N8RUE	EDDIE	21
N8RUH	TJ	1
N8SA	BILL	4
N8SIH	BETTY	14
N8SN	CHUCK	8
KB8TAS	JERRY	15
KA8TIQ	JEFF	6
N8TMJ	MARIANNE	5
KA8TWO	HANK	3
K8TXS	ALEX	1
KA8UHG	STEVE	2
KB8UM	MURRAY	1
N8USI	SCOTT	1
KA8UUV	JOE	1
N8UWO	JERRY	1
K8BUYG	CJ	1
KB8UZT	ELMER	2
W8VB	DAVE	44
KB8VJD	DAVE	3
N8VOH	KATHY	1
WN8VOT	DAVE	2
N8VSI	SCOTT	2
N8VTF	DON	3
KB8WCM	STEVE	2
KB8WLR	CHUCK	2
KB8WTH	RICHARD	26
N8XNM	RAY	4
N8YBY	LEONARD	23
N8YJI	DINA	14
N8YTV	HARRY	2
KB8YYA	DREUX	11
KB8YYB	DEBBIE	2
K8ZEC	JOHN	18
KC8ZEC	JOHN	1
KB8ZEH	DICK	1
N8ZR	STEVE	2
N8ZZE	JOHN	1
N8ZZF	PAT	6
Z8ZZZ	LES	4
K9GUY	GARY	1
K8MCG	MIKE	1
KC8GLC	LENNY	16
KC8HCT	CHRIS	5
N8HFW	CARSON	1

Call	Name	pts
KC8MCM	ROGER	2
K8MBM	ED	1
KA8NDY	DAN	3
W8NG	JIM	3
N8NMX	BILL	1
N8NQQ	BIFF	1
N8OEF	VAL	32
N8OKW	JIM	3
N8OZ	JOE	33
N8PDP	MICHAEL	33

Top 20 VHF Operators		
Call	Name	pts
1	KB8QLM	RICHARD 84
2	KC8HMG	JANICE 79
3	KC8IAQ	DAVE 71
4	KC8HYU	JON 60
5	KC8DIR	BRIAN 48
6	KC8JMP	JOHN 44
7	W8VB	DAVE 44
8	W1IK	JIM 38
9	AB8BT	ANDY 38
10	N8PDP	MICHAEL 33
11	N8OZ	JOE 33
12	N8OEF	VAL 32
13	KA2IBE	JOHN 29
14	W8BE	WALT 28
15	KC8LAH	STU 28
16	KC8GMT	LORA 27
17	KB8WTH	RICHARD 26
18	W1ETE	BRENT 24
19	N8YBY	LEONARD 23
20	KC8HMM	SAM 23

Top HF operators		
Call	Name	pts
1	KC8IAQ	DAVE 94
2	AA8DD	BOB 69
3	KB8QLM	RICHARD 69
4	WA8JPR	BILL 54
5	KA2IBE	JOHN 43
6	KC8GMT	LORA 44
7	W8BE	WALT 36
8	KB8TAS	JERRY 30
9	KC8HMG	JANICE 30
10	N8KC	KEN 26
11	WY8M	ARPAD 26
12	W1ETE	BRENT 22
13	W8IR	MARK 20
14	N8MOJ	MARION 20
15	K8WH	DAVE 18
16	K8PIK	MARILYN 16
17	KC8HMM	SAM 16
18	AB8BT	ANDY 16
19	W8RO	FLOYD 14
20	W8IC	PHIL 12

Database c/o KC8JSH (Delphine)
Software written by W8UC (Tom)

See USECA's "Net Point System
Explanation" for info on how
net points & awards are earned.

See or call Brian (KC8DIR),
USECA's Net Manager,
for more information on
running a net and earning
extra points.

Rules & Regs—From Page 1

The use of quality bandpass filters (not high/low pass) is a MUST (not an option) for EVERY station (excepting Novice/Tech, which should use a manual tuner)! The use of these filters will greatly reduce receiver front-end overload, any unwanted harmonics, and vastly enhance the performance of your Field Day station. If you don't have one for your chosen band of operation, ask around, or break down and buy one (don't be one of those ham-tightwads!). Dunestar (website: http://www.dunestar.com/dunestar/mo_del300.htm) makes 'em at a very reasonable price (\$39). (plans for building your own are available on the ARRL website). Since we're operating on batteries once again, be sure to have several available, fully charged and watered, rigged for easy transport (handles!). (RV or "deep cycle" batteries are vastly preferred. Gel cells and Garden tractor batteries will not perform as well nor last as long!) Be sure you have operators lined up for 'round the clock operation—this is a contest and no station should cease operation unless contacts can no longer be made. Each and every point counts! Remember—we only missed 2nd place last year by 70 contacts!

Field Day Attendees: Remember these rules for Jim's Farm!

NO GLASS at the Field Day site! Broken glass anywhere on Jim's (N8MCD) property can CRIPPLE or MAIM his animals. I doubt he'd be very receptive to our using his farm again in the future if that was to happen. If you see someone with glass containers, STOP them and ask them to leave 'em in their car! Bring your beverages in cans or in kegs (Arpad style!).

CHILDREN—if you bring 'em, keep 'em on a short leash! We've had some very near misses with expensive gear in the past. USECA's Field Days have always been a family affair, but keep in mind that a field full of towers, steel stakes, trip hazards, and wires is a hardly an ideal playground for your child. Keep 'em out of the barn!—consider it OFF LIMITS! Although the animals are cute, they can and do bite.

THE BARN, the HOUSE, and PHONE are OFF LIMITS except for those with Jim's explicit permission. Keep in mind this is his home and property, not USECA's. Use the Porta-Johns provided by the club in the field.

VEHICLES — please, NO DRIVING IN THE STATION AREA! Any rain at all can quickly turn the field into a quagmire when mixed with vehicles driving around. Only vehicles dropping off equipment or trailers will be allowed into the field. Keeping traffic out of the station area greatly enhances the safety of our Field Day as well. Parking will be provided in front and to the side of Jim's house. Please be considerate of others and park in such a way as to allow other cars to move if necessary. If you park on Powell Road, you risk a ticket.

FIRES — NO OPEN FIRES allowed—please be very careful with lanterns, torches, and candles. We've had a couple of close calls in this category as well. KEEP A FIRE EXTINGUISHER HANDY!



Frequencies—From Page 1

So here they are as I have them at press time (write them down):

- 6 Meter: 50.525
- 2 Meter: 146.520
- 220: 223.500
- 440: 446.000
- 1.2 GHz: 1294.500

(In case you forget, these are the national calling frequencies.)
Let's go!—The clock's a tickin'!

Roots Into Radio—From Page 3

Tesla's radio-frequency alternator failed but Fessenden rebuilt and successfully developed it. With it he was able to transmit voice to an experimental station at Plymouth, and later to other points. On Christmas Eve, 1906 he staged a history making broadcast transmitting voice and music from his radio telephone transmitter at Brant Rock, MA.

An interesting but oddly overlooked fact in the development of voice transmissions was that earlier, during tests made between Brant Rock and Plymouth by spark-gap, the voice of the operator, ADAM STEIN, was heard! It was later deduced that he was standing close by the high frequency rotary spark-gap, and that his voice had inadvertently modulated the carrier of the high frequency synchronous rotary spark-gap! Thus the first radio "voice" to modulate the airwaves was a Canadian—little known and long forgotten.

We owe much to these pioneers. Fessenden himself acquired over 500 patents. Basically we can also attribute to him the development of: the beeper; radar; the fathometer; microphotography; turbo-electric marine propulsion; an internal combustion engine with the pistons on the outside of the cylinder, having no ignition system and operating in the diesel principle; sonar; and the list goes on. Although we reap many benefits from the inventiveness of the fertile minds of these pioneers, most of them got very little. Some of course received fame and their names remain forever in history. But all too few, and especially REGINALD AUBREY FESSENDEN, remain little known and mostly forgotten.

¹Condensed from an article in "The Cat's Whisker" Vol.3 No. 1—March 1973

USECA Cork Board

▶ Radio "Stuff" ◀

★ANTRON-99 10/11 mtr antenna with U-Bolts, first \$15.00 takes it. Call (248) 699-4253 X1685 (between 7:30 am-2:30 pm weekdays) or (810) 268-4074 (between 5:00 pm-8:30 pm). KB8RBV, Manny

★ICOM (All) IC-970H 45w 2m/430 xcvr with power supply; CR-293 high stability unit; CT-17 level converter; EX-243 keyer unit; lcom FL-132 main band cw filter; FL-133 sub band cw filter; HM-14 microphone; MB-19 rack mounting handles; PS-55 power supply; SP-20 speaker; UT-34 tone squelch; UT-36 voice synthesizer; UX-r96 50-905 MHz receive unit; UX-97 1.2 GHz unit; Comet CX-903 2m/440/1.2 antenna. All units in like new condition. Includes 30-inch rack cabinet. Will not sell separately unless all sell at one time. Price \$2800.00 for all. Contact Dan, WA8GQL; (810) 247-0444.

MIRAGE RF Amplifier (144-148MHz) 2 watts in; 160 watts out 18 months old. \$275.00. Contact K9GUY (810) 465-5050 glarson@ameritech.net

★PRESIDENT Lincoln 2510. 10 mtr transceiver & Wilson 1000 mag. mount antenna first \$210.00 takes it. Bargain price for both. Transceiver is CW ready (just plug in a keyer). Call (248) 699-4253 X1685 (btwn 7:30 am-2:30 pm weekdays) or (810) 268-4074 (btwn 5:00 pm-8:30 pm). KB8RBV, Manny

★TRIPP LITE PR-10b power supply for sale 13.8vdc. 10A surge, 7.5A continuous. Almost identical to Astron RS-10A. \$50 or trade up to a RS-20A or equivalent power supply. Contact Floyd, W8RO at (248) 391-6660 or hires@rust.net

★WANTED: Hallicrafters SR34. K8OEF (810) 781-0050.

★WANTED: My straight key back! Whoever borrowed my straight key with the polished brass base that is mounted on a piece of 1/4" plywood; please return it. Thanks. Floyd, W8RO. (248) 391-6660 or hires@rust.net

YAESU FT-50RD with manual, heavy duty belt clip & charging stand. \$250. Contact Jim, K8FT at (810) 790-7356 or jkuhns@terayon.com.

▶ Miscellaneous Items ◀

★DUSTER, 1970. 340. Rough shape but restorable. Does drive. Blue w/black stripe. \$1500 obo; Jeff (810) 415-4998.

EPSON Apex Action Printer L1000, 24 pin dot matrix printer. Excellent condition and works beautifully. Comes with tractor feed, as well as plain paper feed; owners manual and software. First \$20 takes it. Call Floyd at (248) 391-6660 or e-mail: hires@rust.net.

★MONITOR 15" NEC Multi-Sync XV15+. Like new. \$125 firm. K8OEF (810) 781-0050.

★SATURN 1995. SL2. Blue/black; 67k miles; auto starter. Dina, N8YJI, (810) 777-4207.

★SPRINT PCS Cellular Phones (2). Dual band digital/analog. Includes home and car chargers and leather carrying case. 8 months old. Excellent condition. \$75 ea. Call Doug at (248)-528-1148(W) or (810) 247-0750(H).

★PAGERS (4). Motorola Numeric. One paid thru 01/00. \$30 ea. Call Doug at (248)-528-1148(W) or (810) 247-0750(H).

★WANTED: Good used keyboard for IBM compatible PC. Contact Floyd, W8RO at (248) 391-6660 or hires@rust.net

ZENITH AT compatible 640k memory 2 5-1/4 floppies with keyboard and monitor make offer, n8erv@tir.com; pager (810) 485-2118; (810)-324-6086.

★New this month.
Notify the editor to have items added and/or removed.

The above column is for club members only and it's free!

Still Going—From Page 2

USECA Float! Jerry, K8CFY is attempting to coordinate a float for this year's Romeo Peach Festival parade. If you can help, please contact Jerry.

Still no word from ARNS (Amateur Radio Newsletter Service) who are the folks who judge and award the ham's newsletters. "Nothing Heard" as to the results for the 1998 contest! I'm "Still Going, yet "Still Waiting!"

This is the June edition—this means I get a two-month vacation. The *Express* will return with the September edition. Have a great, safe summer and enjoy life to it's fullest!

73 for now.

SSTV On The Cheap—From Page 7

While the hardware is dirt cheap if you build it yourself (I figured even \$30 was dirt cheap as far as Ham stuff goes). The software is not "free"—the versions you can download as public domain freeware are not the "full blown" versions. If you want all the features available and the latest upgrades, then you'll want to send in your registration fee of about \$30 for the software to the appropriate address (included in the trial software).

Join the SSTV craze!—you'll be glad you did, even just receiving is a real treat!

73, Ken, N8KC

A blonde went to her mail box several times, even before it was time for the mailman to make his rounds. A neighbor noticed her repeated trips to the curb and asked if she was waiting for a special delivery. Her reply, "My computer keeps telling me I have mail."

—Internet

"GET RADIOACTIVE!"

NAME BADGES

With The OFFICIAL USECA Logo
Contact Debbi, KB8YYB: (810) 263-0227

USECA APPLICATION



DATE _____ NEW RENEWAL
 CALL _____ CLASS _____ AUTO-PATCH _____
 NAME _____
 STREET ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 TELEPHONE # _____ PRINT IN ROSTER YES NO
 BIRTHDATE _____ Copy of Current License for USECA File
 MEMBER: ARRL YES NO RACES YES NO

Rev. 12/98

FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ONLY:

CALL _____	CLASS _____	CALL _____	CLASS _____
NAME _____		NAME _____	
BIRTHDATE _____		BIRTHDATE _____	
MEMBER: ARRL <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		MEMBER: ARRL <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
RACES <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		RACES <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

Annual Membership Dues Regular: \$20 — Family: \$30 — Auto-Patch: \$35 (One Time Fee) + Annual Dues
 Applications can be given to the Membership Secretary at monthly meeting or mailed.
 Please make check payable to: **USECA** — Address: **P.O. Box 1222, Sterling Heights, MI 48311-1222**
 (Allow 4-6 weeks for processing.)



2-Meter LANs

Local Area Nets

DAY	TIME	CLUB	FREQ.
SUN	1:00 pm	USECA/Information	147.180
SUN	8:00 pm	SPIRIT of '76/Traders	146.760
SUN	9:00 pm	HPARC/DART	146.640
SUN	9:00 pm	Garden City ARC	146.860
SUN-SAT	10:15 pm	S. E. Michigan Traffic Net	145.330
MON	8:00 pm	MECA	147.200
MON	9:00 pm	USECA/Slow Code	147.180
TUE	8:00 pm	USECA/Information	147.180
TUE	9:00 pm	Motor City Radio Club	147.240
WED	8:00 pm	GMARC	146.700
WED	8:00 pm	SPIRIT of '76/Info./Traders	146.760
WED	9:00 pm	ARPSC	145.490
WED	9:00 pm	MICHIGAN QRP	145.170
THU	7:00 pm	HPARC/Kids	146.640
THU	8:00 pm	EDISON/Information	145.330
THU	9:00 pm	SATERN	147.180
THU	9:00 pm	ECHO	147.080
FRI	Midnite	USECA/Hoot Owl	147.180

Net Ops Schedules

2-METER NETS

	SUN. 1 PM	MON. 9 PM**	TUES. 8 PM	FRI. MIDNIGHT
WEEK	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz
1	KG8IF	N8OEF	K8QLM	W8PEG
2	W8IR	W1IK	-OPEN-	KC8HMM
3	K8QLM	N8OEF	KC8IAP	KC8DIR
4	AB8BT	W1IK	KF8HT	W1ETE
5*	KF8HT			

**Slow Code

HF NETS

	THURS. 9 PM	FRI. 10 PM	FRI. 11 PM
WEEK	21.140 MHz/CW	21.140 MHz/CW	28.425 MHz/USB
1	K8QLM	-OPEN-	W8IR
2	N8MOJ	K8QLM	KA2IBE
3	W8RO	KC8IAQ	K8QLM
4	AA8DD	-OPEN-	KC8IAQ
5*	TBA	-OPEN-	-OPEN-

*If applicable

NCO's—If you are unable to take your net,
 please get a replacement or contact Dave, KC8IAQ.

On The World Wide Web

USECA Home Page

WWW.USECA.ORG

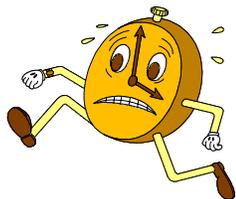
USECA Hot Line: (810) 268-6730

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Time's Runnin' Out.
Field Day's Almost Here!

JUNE 1999

"The Happenin' Club"

Club Activities

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT
JUN	8	7:30 pm	General Meeting/Fox Hunt
JUN	13		Trash-For-Cash
JUN	25-27		Campout—At Field Day
JUN	26-27		Field Day
JUL	23-25		Campout—Xmas in July—Algonac
AUG	1		Annual Club Picnic
AUG	6-15		Campout—Tawas
SEP	3-6		Campout—Labor Day Weekend
SEP	6		Romeo—Peach Festival Parade
SEP	14	7:30 pm	General Meeting
SEP	24-26		Campout—Western—Algonac

June Meeting Hosts
None
(It's Outdoors)

Swaps

Day	Month	Date	Where
SAT	JUN	19	Midland
SUN	JUN	20	Monroe
SUN	SEP	12	Findlay, OH
SAT	SEP	18	L'Anse Creuse
SUN	SEP	19	Adrian
SUN	OCT	24	USECA

Source: QRV Bulletin, QST & N8ARO



6-METER NETS

	WED 7 PM	WED 8 PM
WEEK	50.130 MHz/USB	51.740 MHz/FM
1	KC8JMP	KC8JMP
2	K8QLM	K8QLM
3	N8YBY	KC8HYU
4	W8VB	W8VB
5*		

*If applicable

NCO's—If you are unable to take your net,
please get a replacement or contact Dave, KC8IAQ.